

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

FEAE-00 /089 W

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R 100850Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2443

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 6613

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EINV, ETRD, IR, KN,KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN DEPUTY PRIMIN'S VISIT TO IRAN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PRIMIN AND MIN FOR ECON PLANNING
DUCK-WOO NAM DEPARTED IRAN JULY 9 AFTER A FIVE-DAY VISIT WHICH
HE CONSIDERED HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. MOST PUBLICIZED RESULT OF
VISIT WAS SIGNING JULY 8 OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC PROTOCOL WHICH
PAVES WAY FOR CLOSER COLLABORATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES BY
ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMISSION SIMILAR TO THOSE IRAN HAS WITH
US AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES. FIRST MEETING OF COMMISSION
WILL BE HELD IN SEOUL THIS FALL. AS HAS BEEN CASE WITH VISITING
DELEGATIONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, FEW SPECIFIC AREAS FOR
ECONOMIC COOPERATION OR TRADE EXPANSION APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN
AGREED UPON, THOSE WILL BE LEFT FOR LATER TECHNICAL STUDY GROUPS
AND JOINT COMMISSION. NEVERTHELESS, IN NAM'S TALKS WITH THE SHAH,
MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING MAJIDI, AND MIN ECON AND FINANCE
ANSARY, SEVERAL GENERAL AREAS OF COLLABORATION WERE IDENTIFIED.
KOREA

WILL HELP MEET IRAN'S NEED FOR SKILLED MANPOWER BY PROVIDING
DRIVERS, MECHANICS AND CIVIL ENGINEERS AND WILL SUPPLY CEMENT,
FERTILIZER, TIRES, ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT
AND SHIPS TO IRAN IN RETURN FOR IRANIAN INVESTMENT IN KOREAN
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REFINERY AND OTHER JOINT VENTURES. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: LESS PUBLICIZED BUT PERHAPS OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE ARE POLITICAL RESULTS OF VISIT. NAM DECLARED KOREA'S SUPPORT FOR SHAH'S VIEWS ON PERSIAN GULF SECURITY AND INDIAN OCEAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE. IN RETURN, SOUTH KOREA GAINED GROUND IN BATTLE WITH NORTH KOREA FOR STATUS. WHILE WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER NAM SUCCEEDED IN GAINING IRAN'S SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREA IN UN THIS FALL OR DEFLECTED IRAN'S PENDING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO NORTH KOREA, KOREANS MAY THINK HE DID; THEIR ALMOST ECSTATIC SATISFACTION WITH VISIT CAN HARDLY BE JUSTIFIED BY ANNOUNCED ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS WHICH SEEM TO FAVOR IRANIANS. KOREAN POLCOUNS PARK TOLD CHARGE ENTHUSIASTICALLY THAT EVERYTHING HAD GONE SWIMMINGLY, AND NAM, WHILE MORE CONTROLLED, EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION WITH VISIT. ANOTHER INDICATION THAT NAM MAY HAVE SOUGHT AND OBTAINED IRAN'S POLITICAL SUPPORT WAS FONMIN KHALATBARY'S STATEMENT TO PRESS JULY 7 THAT IRAN'S GOOD RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH BOTH SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA ENABLED IT TO PLAY ROLE IN ACHIEVING RECONCILIATION OF THEIR VIEWS.(PRESS INTERPRETED THIS TO MEAN IRAN WOULD MEDIATE BETWEEN TWO, BUT SENIOR FONMIN OFFICIAL TOLD POLCOUNS THIS WAS NEWSPAPER'S OWN INTERPRETATION OF KHALATBARY'S MORE LIMITED STATEMENT.)

3. EMBOFFS HAVE APPOINTMENTS LATER THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS VISIT WITH OFFICIALS IN INVESTMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BRANCH OF MIN ECON AND FINANCE AND IN NATIONAL IRANIAN OIL CO. WE WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DETAILS LEARNED ABOUT ECON, TRADE AND REFINERY DEALS.
MIKLOS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN06613
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750238-0707
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750767/aaaachwa.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREAN DEPUTY PRIMIN'S VISIT TO IRAN
TAGS: PFOR, EINV, ETRD, IR, KN, KS, (NAM DUCK WOO)
To: STATE SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006